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**VA Health Care Upstate New York
VA Western New York Healthcare System**
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VA Western New York Healthcare System Celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

VA Western New York Healthcare System will celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Wednesday, January 15 at noon in Freedom Hall at the Buffalo site, 3495 Bailey Avenue. Veterans, employees and the community gather annually to celebrate his life at this ceremony.

Assistant Pastor Betty P. Williams, Elim Christian Fellowship will be the keynote speaker. Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech will be recited by Rev. Dee Perry, with musical tribute by Darcel Blue and Rev. Edward Jackson.

Dr. King believed in a nation of freedom and justice for all, and encouraged all citizens to live up to the purpose and potential of America by applying the principles of nonviolence to make this country a better place to live.

"It is important to commemorate the life of this tremendously important leader," stated Sharon Shelton, African American Special Emphasis Employment Manager. "We must continue to provide education about his work for generations to come." The event is free and open to the public.

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